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Item 2(a) of the provisional agenda
Review of the implementation of the programme of work 2018-2019
Review and follow-up to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda, the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing and other relevant agreements

Activities of the Committee on Housing and Land Management since the seventy-eighth session and its future activities for 2019-2020

Note by the secretariat

Summary

This document provides information on the Committee's activities since the seventy-eighth session, and outlines a proposed workplan for 2019 and 2020.

The Committee is invited to take note of the information on the implemented activities and to approve the proposed activities.

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I. Implementation of the Programme of Work 2018-2019

A. Review of and follow-up to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing and other relevant agreements

1. Regional level review and implementation

1. The adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015, the New Urban Agenda in 2016 and other key international agreements established new policy frameworks for the Committee's activities on sustainable housing and urban development. In 2017 and 2018, the Committee worked to promote an integrated and coordinated approach to the implementation of all relevant commitments at the global, national, regional, sub-regional and local levels, as required for meeting the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the New Urban Agenda and others.

2. To discuss approaches to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the Committee secretariat:

(a) Coordinated the organisation of two roundtables on SDG 11 on "Financing the transition to sustainable cities and communities: challenges and opportunities" and "Promoting resilient and sustainable cities and human settlements: intersectoral cooperation and evidence-based policies" at the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the ECE Region (Geneva, 1 and 2 March 2018).[1] The roundtables were organised in close cooperation with other ECE divisions, UN agencies, including UN-Habitat and UNISDR, along with the Council of Europe Bank, Union of Cities and Local Governments and other partners; and

(b) Supported the organisation and participated in side events on affordable housing (organised by the Government of Bahrain and UN-Habitat) and smart sustainable cities (organised by the International Telecommunication Union) at the UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (New York, 8-19 July 2018)[2].

3. Further, the secretariat participated in Expert Group Meetings organised by UN-Habitat in March and May 2018 through which it provided input into the preparation of two UN reports: the First quadrennial report on the progress of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda - Progress on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda: report of the Secretary-General (A/73/83–E/2018/62)[3] and the SDG 11 Synthesis Report High Level Political Forum 2018 - Tracking progress towards Inclusive, Safe, Resilient and Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements[4] respectively.

4. The above mentioned high-level events were instrumental in developing common approaches with other UN agencies, ECE divisions and other partner organisations to foster the implementation of the global agreements.

5. The Charter Centres of Excellence on Sustainable Housing in Glasgow, UK and Tallinn, Estonia continued supporting the Committee in the implementation of the 2030

[1] https://www.unece.org/rfsd2018.html

[2] https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2018

[3] https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/1628008/files/A_73_83&E_2018_62-EN.pdf

[4] https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/19445 2018_HLPF_Thematic_Review_of_SDG_11_UNHabitat_12_June_2018_original.pdf

Agenda, the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing[5] and other agreements through active dissemination of information on the Charter and its principles (e.g. publications, media outreach, and national and local events), organising capacity building and networking activities, providing advisory services to stakeholders, regional and local authorities, and by conducting relevant studies. The highlights of the centres' activities in 2017-2018 were: the launch of a publication by the Glasgow centre "Living in the Social City: Adapt – Renew – Replace?"[6] which examines issues related to the provision of affordable housing through refurbishment of older outdated housing stock; organisation of the joint workshop with the UN Charter centre in Tallinn and Housing Europe Federation on housing systems in countries with economies in transition (Tallinn, 6 June 2018). Charter centres are to be established in other countries including Armenia and Belarus.

6. The Committee has begun work on the implementation of the Geneva Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Housing and Urban Development[7] which was adopted by Ministers and Heads of Delegation at the Ministerial Segment of the seventy-eighth session of the Committee on Housing and Land Management on 9 November 2017. The Ministerial Declaration reiterates the importance for governments at all levels and relevant stakeholders in the ECE region to promote the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the New Urban Agenda, the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing and other relevant global and regional commitments. The Declaration underlines the importance of regularly monitoring and following up on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other agreements. Hence, for that purpose, there is a need to support strengthening the capacity of national governments, improving mechanisms for information exchange, using monitoring tools that ensure a coherent methodology for review, and to follow up across the region for global comparability.

7. To support the implementation of the Declaration, the Committee Bureau and secretariat proposed for the establishment of a regional observatory on urban related SDGs for the ECE Region. The Committee secretariat also conducted a survey on the practice of member States (ECE/HBP/2018/Inf.1) and a draft Guidance document (ECE/HBP/2018/2) which provides recommendations for the alignment of the Committee's activities with Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, The New Urban Agenda, the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing and other key agreements within its existing mandate. A draft policy paper along with Guidelines for data collection process for evidence-based housing and urban development policies were also prepared within the ECE-UN-Habitat joint project "Evidence-based policies for sustainable housing and urban development in selected countries with economies in transition". This initiative was supported by the UN Development Account 10th tranche project (ECE/HBP/2018/Inf.2).

2. National level review - Country Profiles on Housing and Land Management

8. The Country Profile on the Housing Sector of Kazakhstan was completed in 2018. Its findings and recommendations were launched at the Housing and Public Utilities Expo-2017 in November 2017. They were also presented and discussed at the Astana Economic Forum in May 2018.

[5] The Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing (E/ECE/1478/Rev.1), a non-legally binding document that aims to support member States as they seek to ensure access to decent, adequate, affordable and healthy housing for all, was endorsed by the UNECE in 2015.

[6] Living in the Social City: Adapt – Renew – Replace? Wilson, J. Turner, J & Chau, J, with Evans, B.M. (editor), Glasgow Urban Laboratory, ISBN 978 1 9996221 0 7, 2018.

[7] http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/hlm/sessions/docs2017/ECE_HBP_2017_1_ENG_cover.pdf

9. Guidelines for the preparation of the ECE Country Profiles on Housing, Urban Development and Land Management were updated and endorsed by the Committee in 2017. This includes recommendations for a review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda through the Country Profiles.

10. A draft of the Country Profile on Housing and Land Management of Belarus was prepared (ECE/HBP/2018/4 (Executive Summary) and ECE/HBP/2018/ Inf.14 (the draft Country Profile), which applied the updated guidelines. The preliminary mission was organised in December 2017. The research missions were carried out in May-June 2018 in Minsk and Grodno.

B. Sustainable housing and real estate markets

1. Affordable and social housing

11. A study on housing for migrants is being finalised in 2018. The study was prepared with the support of the City of Vienna and the Swiss Federal Office for Housing. The 'Housing for Migrants Study' examines the current challenges and practices in housing migrants in the ECE region and formulates recommendations to better accommodate migrants. The study underlines the importance of the engagement of beneficiaries in housing projects as well as the host communities in the integration process for migrants.

12. The Guidelines on the Management and Ownership of Condominium Housing were developed by the Committee's Real Estate Market Advisory Group (ECE/HBP/2018/ Inf.3). Based on the Guidelines, an international training programme on the management of condominium housing is being developed. A series of meetings and training events were also organised in relation to the Guidelines.

13. An international Conference "Promoting access to affordable and decent housing through the implementation of the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing" was organised in cooperation with City of Vienna (Vienna, 12-13 April 2018). The conference adopted Vienna's Message "Quality Living for All: on Access to Adequate, Affordable and Decent Housing". A panel on housing affordability as part of the Conference of the European Real Estate Society was organised by the Real Estate Market Advisory Group (27–30 June 2018, Reading, UK). A subregional workshop on affordable housing for Central Asia was organised jointly with Housing Initiative for Eastern Europe[8] and UNDP Kazakhstan in September 2018 in Almaty, Kazakhstan. National workshops on housing policies were held in Astana, Kazakhstan, in April 2018 and September 2018. The aim of the workshops was to support the implementation of policy recommendations of the ECE Country Profile on the Housing Sector of Kazakhstan.

14. World Habitat Day 2018 was the occasion to raise awareness on the importance of ensuring that vulnerable populations, especially the homeless, are adequately housed. The celebrations consisted of an opening of "Without Walls: an exhibition of photographs by women affected by homelessness" in association with Café Art, United Nations Office at Geneva and other UN agencies. The exhibition emphasised on the importance of alleviating homelessness through the implementation of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development including the Sustainable Development Goals and the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing. The exhibition also highlighted the intersection of the Sustainable Development Goals 5 Gender Equality and SDG 11 Sustainable Cities. The issue of homelessness was also explored at a high-level panel event featuring eminent speakers from diverse backgrounds: architects, NGOs, government and private sector, to explain the different

[8] www.iwoev.org

dimensions of homelessness and pose innovative solutions through 3D-printed housing, policy and social housing schemes to alleviate homelessness. The panel event was organised in association with UN Library as a Library Talk.

2. Fire safety standards in buildings

15. In 2017, following the Grenfell Tower fire tragedy in London, a group of private and not-for-profit organisations responsible for research, development, publicity, and implementation of International Fire Safety Standards for construction and real estate sectors established a coalition, the aim of which is to promote the creation, maintenance, and use of high quality international standards. Further, the standards are to be developed through transparent and inclusive standard setting process. in July 2018, the International Fire Safety Standards (IFSS) Coalition organised it's the official 'launch' event at Palais des Nations under the umbrella of the Committee on Housing and Land Management. The Coalition is expected to develop a new, high level international standard, which aim to provide greater clarity and global consistency in the application of fire safety in building projects at a state, national, regional or international level.

3. Energy efficiency in buildings

16. Through generous contributions from Denmark and the Russian Federation for the "Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings in the ECE Region" project, the Joint Task Force on Energy-Efficiency Standards in Buildings of the ECE Committee on Housing and Land Management and the ECE Committee on Sustainable Energy (through its Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency) continued its crucial work. In 2018, the group developed the study on mapping energy efficiency standards in buildings in the ECE region, in English and Russian. The JTF is currently working on a study on best practices to enhance energy efficiency standards in buildings, a study on mapping of existing technology to support energy efficiency in buildings, and on the creation of a database of energy efficiency experts.

17. After the first Joint Task Force meeting in Geneva on 30 and 31 October 2017, the Joint Task Force met on:

- 14-15 May in Yerevan, Armenia to validate the results of the study on mapping of energy efficiency standards in buildings in the ECE region;
- 3 October in Geneva back-to-back with this Committee session to validate the results of the mapping of existing technology to support energy efficiency in buildings;
- 13-14 November in Kiev, Ukraine within the 9th Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development.

18. In addition to these activities, the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organisation (BSEC) has provided funding for the project "Promoting the application of high-performance energy efficiency standards in buildings in BSEC member States". The activities under this project will be carried out by the Joint Task Force. They include:

- The development of a training course programme on high-performance energy efficiency standards in buildings in the ECE region
- The organization of a 2-3-day training seminar for policy makers and building sector professionals in application of high-performance building standards, St-Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 5 to 7 September 2018.

4. Work of the Real Estate Market Advisory Group (REM)

19. Since the seventy-eighth session of the Committee, the REM worked on three main studies in accordance with its Programme of Work (ECE/HBP/2016/3). The studies are to be finalised in 2018 and published in 2019. These studies are:

- Update of the Policy Framework on Real Estate Markets;
- Guidelines on Condominium Management;
- Guidelines on tools and mechanisms to finance smart sustainable cities projects. This study was developed in the framework of the United for Smart Sustainable Cities initiative.

20. REM was also involved in the activities of the Joint Task Force on Energy Efficiency Standards in buildings and provided input to the surveys, and revised the reports produced under the work of this group.

21. REM further participated in and/or organized the following events:

- the training event "The management of multi-apartment high rise housing stock: localizing the SDG11 and the NUA through housing strategies in countries undergoing economic transition", 11 February 2018, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, within the World Urban Forum 9;
- Vienna Conference on Sustainable Housing: "Promoting access to affordable and decent housing through the implementation of the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing", 12-13 April 2018, Vienna, Austria
- ECE panel on Housing Affordability during the 25th annual Conference of the European Real Estate Society (ERES) in Reading, U.K., on 28 June 2018.

22. The Real Estate Market Advisory Group implements its activities with the support of its subgroups:

- subgroup 1 on energy efficiency in buildings and implementation of housing policies in Eastern Europe
- subgroup 2 on the dissemination of the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing and support to its Centres of Excellence
- subgroup 3 on land markets and land administration
- subgroup 4 on sustainable urban development and smart cities financing
- subgroup 5 on affordable and social housing
- subgroup 6 on registration, property valuation and cooperation with the Working Party on Land Administration; and
- subgroup 7 on housing finance.

C. Sustainable urban development

1. Implementation of the New Urban Agenda

23. The Committee was actively involved in the Ninth World Urban Forum (Kuala-Lumpur, 7-13 February 2018). The aim of the World Urban Forum was to review the status of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda. The secretariat organized training sessions and side events jointly with UN-Habitat and other partners to support the creation

and consolidation of platforms towards the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, and develop roadmaps and follow up mechanisms for different stakeholder groups:

- Dissemination of New Urban Agenda in the Balkans, 8 February
- Special session: Security of tenure, land market and segregation, 9 February
- Launch the 11th tranche Development Account project on Housing Policy Thursday, 9 February
- Sustainable Cities: Hubs of Innovation, Low Carbon Industrialization and Climate Action, 11 February
- Low carbon and energy efficient cities Rethink and reimagine our cities Tuesday 13 February 2018.

2. Smart sustainable cities

24. In the framework of the "United for Smart Sustainable Cities" (U4SSC) initiative, the secretariat, together with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), and the other 16 UN bodies, who are involved with the U4SSC initiative, developed the following studies:

- Guidelines on tools and mechanisms to finance smart sustainable cities projects (which is also part of the programme of work of REM)

25. Currently the groups are working on four other outputs:

- Guidelines for circular cities (secretariat support provided by ECE)
- City Science Application Framework (secretariat support provided by ITU)
- The impact of Sensing technologies and IoT in Cities (secretariat support provided by UN-Habitat)
- Blockchain for cities (secretariat provided by UNU).

26. The initiative held its third meeting in Malaga, Spain on 26 April 2018. In this meeting the updated Terms of Reference, along with the action plan for 2018-2019 for the initiative have been approved.

27. The ECE also finalised the smart sustainable city profile for the city of Voznesensk in Ukraine. Results of the study and policy recommendations will be launched in Kiev in November 2018. The secretariat is also working to develop the Guidelines for the City Action Plan along with the preparation of the City Action Plan for Goris, Armenia. These projects will commence soon.

28. The ECE together with the Organization for International Economic Relations (OiER) launched the first United Smart Cities Lab in Vienna in April 2018. The ECE, together with UN-Habitat and other partners, are working to create a smart city district in Astana, Kazakhstan.

D. Sustainable land administration and management

1. Working Party on Land Administration (WPLA) session and workshops

29. The Working Party organized the "Joint Workshop of ECE WPLA, FAO and LANDNET" in Skopje, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia 19-21 June 2018. The workshop focused on "Best practices on land consolidation legislation" the workshop presented and discussed the preliminary results of the joint research project on Land Consolidation that currently is being carried out by FAO, Technical University of Munch

and WPLA. Gender principles and issues in land governance in the Western Balkans including work on SDG indicator 5.a.2 project in cooperation with FAO and GIZ was presented at the joint conference.

30. The Working Party is actively contributing to the work of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management Expert Group on Land Administration and Management (UNGGIM) and participated in the UNGGIM Europe Executive Committee Meeting on November 2017 in Geneva.

31. The Working Party presented on its work at the First Arab Land Conference organised by the World Bank, the Global Land Tool Network, UN-Habitat, the Arab League and the Arab Union of Surveyors (Dubai, 26-28 February 2018). The World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty (Washington, D.C., 19-23 March 2018).

2. Land Administration Reviews

32. The review of the land administration and real estate markets in Belarus was developed by experts from the Netherlands and the Russian Federation. The land administration review will be published as a chapter in the Country Profile for Belarus.

3. Studies on selected topics in land management

33. The WPLA continued its activities on the preparation of Informal Development: Guidelines for formalization of informal constructions in the ECE Region, which was finalised in 2018.

34. Research on the Future Scenarios in land administration held a roundtable held in Stockholm, Sweden 15 June 2018. Results will be presented at the WPLA workshop in Athens, Greece in November 2018.

35. Study on the cost for registration and transfer of real estate and registration of mortgages in the ECE countries, benchmarking study was carried out in 2018 and will be published in 2019.

36. Study on the Challenges of Fraud to Land Administration Institutions (July 2011) is being updated and a new version was prepared. The revised publication will be published in 2019.

4. WPLA Task Groups

37. The WPLA implemented its activities with the support of its Task Groups:

(a) Group for Outreach and Promotion
(b) Group for Benchmarking of land administration systems
(c) Group for cooperation between the Working Party and the Real Estate Market Advisory Board
(d) Group on Land Consolidation
(e) Group on Informal Settlements
(f) Group on future scenarios for land administration
(g) Group on Fraud in land administration.

II. Technical Cooperation activities

38. The UNDA Ninth tranche project "Strengthening national capacities for sustainable housing and urban development in countries with economies in transition" was completed at the end of 2017 with the regional workshop in November in Geneva. Within the project, the Guidelines and the policy paper on the development and implementation of the National

Action Plan in the field or housing, urban development and land management were prepared. According to these Guidelines, the governments of Armenia, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Tajikistan, drafted their National Action Plans to implement the recommendations of the country profiles.

39. The UNDA Tenth tranche project "Evidence-based policies for sustainable housing and urban development in selected countries with economies in transition" has been carried out in collaboration with UN-Habitat. Under this project, advisory missions and national validation workshops were organised in Georgia, Kyrgyzstan and Ukraine. A policy paper with the methodology for data collection relevant to the 2030 Agenda and New Urban Agenda was also drafted. A group of international experts have proposed recommendations to the draft legislation on the provision of housing and rental housing in Ukraine. The recommendations were presented during the mission to Kiev in April 2018; accompanying the mission a round table to discuss the best international practices and the housing challenges in Ukraine was also organized.

40. Under the Regional Programme of Technical Cooperation, a city level assessment to prepare a smart sustainable city profile for Voznesensk, Ukraine, using the U4SSC Key Performance Indicators, was conducted. Capacity building workshops on affordable housing were organised in Almaty and Astana, Kazakhstan; Grodno, Belarus; and Kiev, Ukraine. Work has commenced on the Technical Guidelines on formalization of informal real estate and informal markets and will be finalised in spring 2018.

41. The UNDA Eleventh tranche project "Strengthening evidence-based and participatory housing policies and strategies" is being carried out in collaboration with UN-Habitat. The project includes cooperation with the Ministry of Regional Development of Bulgaria on the review of the draft National Housing Strategy and other documents. A joint workshop on housing and land administration is also planned for 15-16 November 2018 to be held in Sofia.

III. Cooperation with other UNECE subprogrammes

42. The Committee continued to cooperate, especially on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, with ECE subprogrammes: (1) Environment, (2) Transport, (3) Statistics, (4) Economic Cooperation and Integration, (5) Sustainable Energy, and (7) Forestry and Timber.

43. Coordination with other United Nations Regional Commissions, which was established for participation in the Habitat III Conference, continued on relevant housing and urban development issues. Coordination with the United Nations system working in the ECE region for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda has been also established.

A. Sustainable housing and real estate markets

44. The Committee has engaged in regular cooperation with the Committee on Sustainable Energy on energy efficiency in buildings. The two Committees co-lead the activities of the Joint Task Force on Energy-Efficiency Standards in Buildings.

B. Sustainable urban development

45. A seminar on "Land-Use Planning and Industrial Safety" was held in Brussels, Belgium, on 16 and 17 May 2018, organized jointly with the ECE Industrial Accidents Convention, in cooperation with the host country and the European Investment Bank.

46. The secretariat cooperated with the Transport, Health and Environment Pan European Programme (THE PEP) for the preparations of the Sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health (Ostrava, Czech Republic, 13 to 15 June 2017). The cooperation with THE PEP will continue in line with the Committee's activities on sustainable urban development for the implementation of THE PEP priority goal 5.

47. The secretariat cooperated with the ECE Innovation Policies Development Section for the finalization of the U4SSC deliverable "Guidelines for circular cities".

C. Country profiles on housing and land management

48. The secretariat cooperates with the ECE Environmental Performance Reviews (EPR) team, by participating in the review of the EPR draft chapters on housing and environment. The two teams also exchange relevant country information.

IV. Cooperation with other international organizations

A. Sustainable housing and real estate markets

49. The Committee is working together with UN-Habitat, the UN Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights, Housing Europe Federation, the World Economic Forum, Union of Cities and Local Governments, the European Commission, Eurocities and many other pan-European networks of organizations as well as cities, on issues related to affordable and healthy housing.

50. The Committee continues to cooperate with international organizations, such as the International Standards Organizations, the Passive House Institute, the European Buildings Performance Institute, the Copenhagen Center on Energy Efficiency, etc. to implement the activities of the Joint Task Force on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings.

B. Sustainable urban development

51. The Committee continues its cooperation with OECD, UN-Habitat and other organisations involved in the interagency National Urban Policy Programme through its ongoing technical cooperation activities. The secretariat participated in the OECD 23rd meeting of the Working Party on Urban Policy on 16 April 2018 in Paris. The secretariat also participated in the Second Partners Meeting of the National Urban Policy Programme.

52. The Committee continues its cooperation with ITU, 16 other UN entities and other stakeholders through the global initiative U4SSC through its meetings and its outputs. It also continues its cooperation with the Organization for International Economic Relations (OiER), the UNDP offices of Armenia and Ukraine for the development of the activities under the programme United Smart Cities.

53. The Committee also continues its cooperation with ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section. "The Sky is the Limit" high-level panel event was jointly organised with the ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section and the ECE Housing and Land Management Unit, together with the FAO Liaison Office in Geneva as part of the International Day of Forests on 31 March 2018, to showcase innovative approaches to integrate green spaces into cities via urban farming, vertical forests, wood construction and architecture.

C. Land Administration

54. Under the Memorandum of Understanding on Land Administration and Management with the FAO, the Working Party on Land Administration is collaborating under a bi-annual cooperation plan with FAO, as well as with the World Bank and the European Commission Joint Research Centre. The Working Party regularly cooperates on the organization of joint events and studies with other international organizations involved in land administration in the region, including UN-Habitat, the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), the EU INSPIRE Initiative, the European Land Information Service, EuroGeographics, and others. The WPLA organizes annual meetings of international organizations and agencies, which serve as a neutral platform to discuss how to best work together to improve land management and land administration in the ECE region.

D. Country Profiles on Housing and Land Management

55. To ensure the long-term sustainability of the results of the country profiles, the Committee established cooperation with UN-Habitat and UNDP offices in countries where the profiles are being developed. UN-Habitat and UNDP offices in Kazakhstan and Belarus contributed to the preparation of the Country Profiles for these two countries.

V. Major activities planned for 2019 and beyond

56. The Committee will continue to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the achievement of the housing, urban and land-related Sustainable Development Goals, especially Goal 11 "Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable" and its targets: (11.1.) Ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services; (11.3) Enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanisation and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries; (11.6) Reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management; (11.7) Provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces. Due to its cross-cutting nature, it will also contribute to the achievement of other goals, particularly to the Goals 3, 6, 7, 9, 13, 15 and 17. Due consideration will be given to the integration of climate change mitigation and adaptation measures into national policies, strategies and planning in the area of housing, urban development and land management. Further, this work will promote the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development, the UN-Habitat Global Housing Strategy, the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing, the Geneva Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Housing and Urban Development, the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning, and the Strategy for Sustainable Housing and Land Management in the ECE region for the Period 2014-2020.

57. The following activities are expected to be implemented.

A. Review of and follow-up to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing and other relevant agreements

1. Aligning Committee activities with the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda

58. The Geneva Ministerial Declaration on Housing and Urban Development adopted in 2017 stressed the importance of the regular monitoring and following up on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the New Urban Agenda, the UN-Habitat Global Housing Strategy, the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing and other documents; and of strengthening the capacity of national governments, including their statistical services, and improving mechanisms for information exchange and using monitoring tools that ensure a coherent methodology across the region and global comparability.

59. To promote the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration, a regional observatory on urban related SDGs will be launched to support efforts of governments and stakeholders in the development of evidence based policies, including on urban and housing related data collection for reviewing the 2030 Agenda's implementation. The observatory will include an interactive web portal containing regularly updated data and information on the state of housing and urban development at national and local level in countries of the ECE Region; a set of training materials, including e-learning, on data and knowledge collection for the review of achievement of the SDGs, relevant reports and publications with best practices. The observatory work will include regular thematic meetings and discussions with active participation of key stakeholders and academia. It will promote new cross-sectoral activities, as the 2030 Agenda creates new possibilities for collaboration that reflect the linkages between different goals and targets. These activities will allow to exploit existing synergies, increase the efficiency of its work and have a multiplying effect on its actions to implement the SDGs. The establishment of the regional observatory will support capacity of national and local governments to implement relevant measures to achieve the SDGs, especially the SDG 11 on cities and human settlements.

60. A guidance document on aligning Committee activities with the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, the New Urban Agenda, the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing and the Geneva Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Housing and Urban Development is expected to be prepared and adopted by the Committee; and regional and subregional consultations to be organised during 2018-2019. A policy paper and guidelines for the collection and analysis of the national data on housing and urban development (UNDA Tenth tranche project, UN-Habitat) will be finalised.

61. A series of international conferences and workshops will be organised to discuss the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda, the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing in the ECE region, including in Sofia, Bulgaria; Prague, Czech Republic; Milano, Italy; Tbilisi, Georgia; and Glasgow, the UK.

2. Implementation of the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing

62. The Committee will continue to promote the implementation of the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing through the organization of advisory services, capacity-building and dissemination activities, and through the network of Geneva UN Charter Centres. In addition to the already established centres in Albania and Estonia and the UK, Charter Centres will be established in Armenia, Austria, Belarus and other countries. An integrated capacity building programme will be developed jointly by the Centres.

B. Sustainable housing and real estate markets

63. To promote sustainable housing and real estate markets, the Committee will focus on housing finance and management, support governments in improving energy efficiency in buildings, facilitating the maintenance, management and refurbishment of existing housing stock and developing real estate markets.

1. Affordable and decent housing

64. Based on recommendations a study conducted in 2017-2018 by the Committee secretariat on opportunities for cooperation on capacity building on affordable housing with partner organisations, the Committee will develop a two-year action plan for capacity building activities under the Committee's programme of work and will start its implementation. The capacity building action plan will include trainings and other activities on topics of sustainable housing, smart sustainable cities, energy efficiency in buildings (including management of multiapartment and high-performance buildings), sustainable urban development, governance in land tenure and other.

65. The Committee will conduct a survey and prepare a policy brief on homelessness in association with Housing Europe, FEANTSA (European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless) and other stakeholders. The topic of homelessness is a multidimensional issue that intersects with Sustainable Development Goals 1 No Poverty, SDG 3 Good Health, and SDG 11 Sustainable Cities. Further, this policy paper will reflect the ethos of the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing as it supports member States to ensure the access to decent, affordable and healthy housing in the ECE region.

2. Energy efficiency in buildings

66. The Joint Task Force on Energy-Efficiency Standards in Buildings will continue its work with a focus on capacity building to promote energy efficiency in buildings, including through the improved management of multiapartment buildings.

67. In cooperation with the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI), a workshop on building standards will be organised with COFFI at its 76th session in Canada in November 2018.

3. Real Estate Market Advisory Group

68. The Real Estate Markey Advisory Group will continue to contribute to the work of the Committee on energy efficiency, smart sustainable cities. REM will also contribute to the work of the Fire Safety Standards in Buildings. Furthermore, it will contribute to the WPLA benchmarking series surveys. The Advisory Group will also work on two key studies on the topic of sharing economy and housing finance.

69. The Advisory Group will organize several meetings as per its programme of work. Two key events will be organised for the Advisory Group in 2018: Sofia, Bulgaria on 15-16 November 2018 and Milano in December 2018. The REM has also proposed to organize events on the Policy Framework in New York in 2019 and on the Condominium Management together with the European Mortgage Federation in Brussels in 2019.

B. Sustainable urban development

70. The secretariat will support the Committee in promoting an integrated approach to the planning of cities and human settlements. The focus will be on activities relevant to

spatial planning towards compact, efficient and inclusive cities, low-carbon and disaster resilient urban development and in addressing the challenges of informal settlements.

1. Smart Sustainable Cities

71. The Committee secretariat will support application of innovative financing approachs for sustainable housing and urban planning by developing smart sustainable districts in Astana, Kazakhstan; and Grodno, Belarus. Smart city profile will be finalised for the city of Voznesensk, Ukraine.

72. The Fourth Meeting of the U4SSC initiative, as along with other events, will be organized jointly with the ITU and other key partners in 2019. A joint event with ITU and FAO has been proposed as part of the World Forum on Urban Forests which will take place in Mantova on 28 November to 1 December 2018. A workshop on "Water and Cities" will be organised in 2019 jointly with the secretariat of the ECE Water Convention Protocol on Water and Health.

C. Land administration and management

73. To assist member States in improving land administration and land management, the Committee activities will promote security of tenure and improvement of cadastres and land registries, including institutional arrangements for land administration. This cluster will address land registration, e-governance, land tenure, spatial information and cadastres. An emphasis will be placed on issues of innovation and capacity building in land administration.

74. The WPLA will organize workshops on the following topics:

- Joint Conference of ECE WPLA, FIG and TCG "Economy, Society and Climate Change - Current Trends and Solutions for the Built Environment, Construction Industry and Real Estate" 7–9 November 2018 - Athens, Greece
- Key registers for the implementation of the SDGs, Norway, May 2019
- Jointly with Surveyor General of State Lands, Natural Resources Canada (Sector Lands and Minerals) and WPLA "How to assure rights of indigenous peoples and minorities" in Canada in 2019.

75. Further, the Working Party will finalize the study on benchmarking in land administration studies on the costs for registration/transfer of real estate and registration of mortgages for the ECE region, and work on an update of the Land Administration Systems Survey in 2019. The update on the Fraud in Land Administration Systems will be finalised in 2019.

76. The ECE will also continue its cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organisation, UN-Habitat and the GLTN on land management issues.

77. The Working Party will hold their 11th session on 27-28 February 2019.

D. Country profiles on housing and land management

78. The Country Profile Belarus will be launched in May 2019. Future country profiles will focus on the review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda and other international commitments. Follow up to the country profiles will also include monitoring of, and support to, the implementation of the country profiles'

recommendations, including through the preparation of national action plans on sustainable housing and urban development and model projects.